

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-11 SAM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /088 W

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R 150815Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6032

INFO USUN MISSION NEW YORK 0818

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 2649

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, CU, IR

SUBJ: IRAN THREATENS TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH CUBA

1. ON MARCH 14, MFA SPOKESMAN SAID IRAN WOULD BREAK OFF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CUBA IF REPORTS OF AN ALLEGED MEETING BETWEEN CUBAN PREMIER FIDEL CASTRO AND OUTLAWED IRANIAN COMMUNIST (TUDEH) PARTY CHIEF IRAJ ESKANDARI PROVED TO BE TRUE. IRANIAN WARNING REFERRED TO BROADCAST BY CLANDESTINE RADIO PEYKE IRAN WHICH CLAIMED MEETING TOOK PLACE DURING 25TH SOVIET PARTY CONGRESS. SPOKESMAN'S REMARKS CARRIED IN ALL TEHRAN PAPERS MARCH 15.

2. MFA SPOKESMAN SAID GOI HAD ORDERED AN INVESTIGATION OF THE MATTER AND IF REPORT OF CASTRO-ESKANDARI MEETING WAS CORRECT, GOI WOULD TAKE "A VERY SERIOUS VIEW OF THE MATTER" AND CONSIDER THE ACTION AS "GROSS INTERVENTION IN INTERNAL IRANIAN AFFAIRS." IRAN-CUBA TIES WERE ESTABLISHED LAST YEAR, AND CUBAN AMBASSADOR REYES-MAS HAS BEEN IN TEHRAN FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS.

3. GOI SOURCE IN MFA SECRETARIAT TOLD EMBOFF IRANIAN
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FONMIN KHALATBARY (AND PRESUMABLY SHAH) OUTRAGED AT

REPORT OF MEETING, WHICH CAME ON HEELS OF IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE REPORTS THAT CUBAN "ADVISERS" NOW AIDING DHOFAR REBELS IN OMAN. SOURCE SAID SHAH ALSO UPSET BY CUBAN PRESENCE IN AFRICA AND HAD ORDERED KHALATBARY TO RESPOND HARSHLY TO "GIVE CUBANS SOMETHING TO TAKE THEIR MINDS OFF FOREIGN ADVENTURISM" (SOURCE QUOTE). SOURCE SPECULATED ACTUAL BREAK WOULD PROBABLY DEPEND ON WHETHER CASTROL OWNED UP TO MEETING OR TRIED TO DENY IT AND DOWNPLAY ISSUE.

4. THIS TELEGRAM SENT INFO TO CARACAS, AS EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS IRANIAN EMBASSY THERE HANDLING RELATIONSWITH CUBA. MIKLOS

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Message Attributes

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